

INFORMATION BULLETIN #33

SALES TAX

DECEMBER, 2002

(Replaces Bulletin #33 dated April 1983)

DISCLAIMER: Information bulletins are intended to provide non-technical assistance to the general public. Every attempt is made to provide information that is consistent with the appropriate statutes, rules and court decisions. Any information that is inconsistent with the law, regulations, or court decisions is not binding on either the Department or the taxpayer. Therefore, information provided in this bulletin should serve only as a foundation for further investigation and study of the current law and procedures related to its subject matter.

SUBJECT: Exemption from the Retail Sales Tax on Unitary Transaction of Eight Cents (\$.08) or Less

REFERENCES: IC 6-2.5-2-2; IC 6-2.5-6-8

Effective December 1, 2002, unitary transactions in the amount of one cent (\$.01) to eight cents (\$.08) are not subject to sales tax .

A "unitary transaction" includes all items of property and/or services, whether or not such services would otherwise be taxable, furnished pursuant to a single order or agreement and for which a total combined charge or selling price is computed for payment.

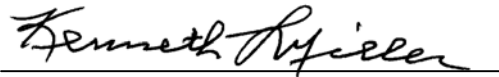
Items of one cent (\$.01) to eight cents (\$.08) purchased or paid for at one time are not exempt if the total sale or sales is more than eight cents (\$.08).

Registered retail merchants recording and accounting for such sales (i.e., unitary sales of eight cents [\$.08] or less) separately may deduct the amount of such sales.

When record keeping and recording procedures are such that it would not be practical or feasible to maintain actual records of unitary transactions of one cent (\$.01) to eight cents (\$.08) every day in the year, the Department will accept the following procedures as proof of such transactions:

- (1) The retail merchant may determine the ratio of one cent (\$.01) to eight cent (\$.08) sales to total sales during a period of fifteen (15) consecutive days during the first quarter of the merchant's normal and customary sales activity throughout the year.
- (2) If a merchant has multiple selling locations or different kinds of selling transactions, the merchant may apply in advance to the Indiana Department of Revenue for permission to use a "representative sampling of locations" at which such checks are to be made. Sufficient information to establish the fact that such locations will be "representative" of all locations will be required.
- (3) The merchant using the sampling method must keep an accurate record of the dollar amount of unitary transactions under nine cents (\$.09) during this fifteen (15) day period. By dividing this total amount of gross sales at the locations used for the fifteen (15) day period, a percentage can be determined which the merchant may apply against gross sales to establish "sales not subject to the tax". This percentage factor is used throughout the balance of the calendar year in which the sampling is made.

It is important that the percentage factor be calculated from the merchant's actual records. These records must be maintained for three (3) years plus the current year because the merchant will be required to substantiate the percentage factor used upon the request of the Department.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kenneth L. Miller", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Kenneth L. Miller
Commissioner